

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 13 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6,8,9 and 11-14 of co-pending Application No. 10/753,082. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 9 and 15 have been amended to specify that that “connection pin extends from a lower surface of the socket or adapter device in a downward direction” and “the end section of the connection pin has a shape bent back in an upward direction.” These features are shown in Figs. 2, 4 and 5A as connection pins 17a, 17b, 17c, and 17d. By configuring the connection pins to bend back in an upward direction, the blunt end of the connection pin does not come into direct contact with the contact of the device. Accordingly, a safe contact can be made with the contact device.

Application No. 10/753,082 fails to disclose connection pins with the claimed configuration. Accordingly, since all of the pending claims include this configuration, the double patenting rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-5 and 7-15 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Pfaff. Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being anticipated by Pfaff in view of Volz. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As explained above, independent claims 1, 9, and 15 have been amended to specify that that “connection pin extends from a lower surface of the socket or adapter device in a downward direction” and “the end section of the connection pin has a shape bent back in an upward direction.” Neither Pfaff nor Volz describe or suggest this novel configuration. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1, 9 and 15 should be withdrawn. The rejection of claims 2-8 and 10-14, which depend from claims 1, 9 and 15, should be withdrawn for at least the same reasons.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to

withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing Attorney Docket No. 543822003100. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Jonathan Bockman

Registration No.: 45,640

MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP

1650 Tysons Blvd, Suite 300

McLean, Virginia 22102

(703) 760-7769